**University of Guelph**

**College of Social and Applied Human Sciences**

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology**

**SOAN 2120\*01: Introductory Methods**

**Instructor:** Trisha Einmann

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**Office:** TBA

**Office Hours:** TBA

**Time and Location:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30 to 10:20 THRN 1200

**Course Prerequisites: ANTH 1150, SOC 1100, or SOC 1500**

**Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Analyze and evaluate qualitative and quantitative research in sociology and anthropology, and the social sciences generally.
2. Apply appropriate research methodologies to address contemporary, historical, social and global issues.
3. Develop and practice intellectual curiosity, analytic, problem-solving, decision-making and listening skills.

This course will also provide students with an overview of research methodology, debates within the field of sociological research methods, and the process of conducting research in the social sciences. Thus, by the end of the course, students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of social research, both qualitative and quantitative. Students will engage with a variety of topics relating to research methods including ethical issues in social research, qualitative interviews, field research (also known as participant observation), experimental designs, survey research, qualitative and quantitative sampling, measures of central tendency and dispersion, hypothesis testing, and inferential statistics.

Students in SOAN 2120 will gain practical experience conducting social research. The research assignments provide an opportunity for students to put into practice the writing and research related skills they learned in the course.

1. For the first assignment, students will utilize qualitative data analysis software to help organize and manage a selection of qualitative data.
2. The second assignment is an extension of the first. Students will utilize the data collected in the first assignment to write an effective literature review.
3. For the final assignment, students will create a journal article style report consisting of an abstract, literature review (using a revised version of their second assignment), methods section, results section, conclusion, and bibliography.

**Please note: Due to the complex nature of the second research project, this class is not recommended for students in first year. Attending class is extremely important, almost vital, for understanding how to complete both research projects. While we aim to assist everyone in SOAN 2120 as much as possible, PLEASE do your best to attend all classes.**

The evaluation for this course is as follows**:**

Midterm Test #1: 15%

Midterm Test #2: 15%

Research Assignment #1: 10%

Research Assignment #2: 10%

Research Assignment #3: 25%

Final exam: 25%

**Required Textbooks:**

Neuman, Lawrence W., and Karen Robson. 2018. *Basics of Social Research: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches.* Toronto, Ontario: Pearson Canada Inc. (E-book)

Einmann, Trisha, Dylan Reynolds, David Walters, and Laura Wright. 2020. *Data Analyses for Qualitative and Quantitative Research*. Pearson Education.

**Course Software:**

The qualitative methods software that we will be explored in this class is NVivo. The statistical software package that we will be using is called SPSS (statistical package for the social sciences). The course software is available in the library (Windows only) and in the computing labs throughout the University of Guelph (e.g., Mack 028). All versions of the software used in this course are available to be downloaded through the university with a valid university email account at: <https://guelph.onthehub.com/WebStore/Welcome.aspx>

Instructions on how to download the software will also be provided on CourseLink.